Effects of X-Ray Radiation

@2999. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press news-item captioned "How harmful is X-ray for the body" as reported in the Pioneer dated 18-1-94;

(b) if so, whether the X-ray radiation are harmful to human body;

(c) whether any studies have been conducted on the effect of X-ray radiation on human body;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) the other guidelines likely to be issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Studies conducted in the early period of 19th Century revealed that scientists and their assistants who handled x-ray equipment carelessly suffered damage due to over-exposure to x-rays, X-ray units used during early years did not have adequate safety features. Very large doses of x-rays are known to be harmful.

No harm is expected at low doses of x-rays typical in diagnostic medical x-ray examinations carried out using well maintained, optimally adjusted x-ray equipment under safe procedures.

(e) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has issued a Safety Code on Medical x-ray Installations and also a Manual titled "Atlas of Reference Plans for Medical Diagnostic x-ray Installations". Under the Radiation Protection Rules 1971, AERB has also issued Radiation Surveillance Procedures for Medical Applications of Radiation (1989).

Losses due to delayed Commissioning Kaiga Atomic Power Plant

3000. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 426 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1994 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the delay in commissioning the Kaiga Atomic Power Plant would cause a monetary loss of Rs. 1.00 crore per day to the Nuclear Power Corporation; and

(b) whether the work at Kali river dam site has been stopped because of abrupt withdrawal of the World Bank aid, which is financing the project and if so, whether the Centre would step-in to declare the Kali river project as a national project and provide adequate funds for its early completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Kadra Dam project on the Kali river is being implemented by the Karnataka Power Corporation with financial aid from the Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development Assistance, and not from the World Bank. The Government of Karnataka have indicated the revised schedule for completion of the Kadra dam taking note of delays which have already occurred as March 1996 but partial impoundment of water for use by the Kaiga Atomic Power Station would be possible by the Monsoon of 1995. The two units of the Kaiga Atomic Power Station are scheduled to achieve criticality in June 1996 and December 1996 respectively. The question of monetary loss due to delay in commissioning the Kaiga Atomic Power Plant does not arise at this stage.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 1110 transfered from 2nd March, 1994.